

Appl. No. 09/890,179
Amdt. dated August 12, 2004
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

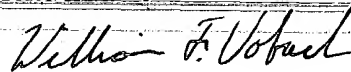
Prior to examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the claims as listed above.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

~~If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of~~
this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



William F. Vobach
Reg. No. 39,411

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 303-571-4000
Fax: 415-576-0300
Attachments
WFV:klb
60282094 v1